

Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-19 (Canceled)

20. (Original) A method of manufacturing a single-layer, peelable PTFE sheath that does not include mechanically produced skiving for longitudinal splitting of the sheath, the method comprising:

- (a) providing a PTFE preform material;
- (b) extruding the preform material into tubing;
- (c) drying the tubing; and
- (d) curing the tubing to provide a peel strength of at least about 0.5 lbs with a standard deviation of no greater than about 0.40.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20 further comprising adding a detectable material to the preform blend in an amount sufficient to facilitate external visualization by X-ray or fluoroscopic procedures.

22. (Original) The method of claim 20 further comprising:

- (a) affixing a hub unit onto a proximal end of the peelable sheath;
- (b) attaching a plurality of wing portions to opposing sides of the hub unit; and
- (c) tipping the peelable sheath at a distal end thereof.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22 wherein the tipping comprises thermally treating the sheath.

24. (Original) A method of manufacturing a multi-layer, PTFE peelable sheath that does not include mechanically produced skiving for longitudinal splitting of the sheath, comprising:

- (a) preparing a first preform PTFE material for forming the inner layer of the peelable sheath;

(b) preparing a second preform PTFE material for forming the outer layer of the peelable sheath;

(c) combining the first preform material and second preform material blend into a two layer preform;

(d) extruding the two layer preform into tubing;

(e) drying the tubing; and

(f) curing the tubing using a precision sintering process.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24 further comprising equilibrating the first preform material and second preform material prior to their combination.

26. (Original) The method of claim 24 further comprising adding a detectable material to the first preform blend in an amount sufficient to facilitate external visualization..

27. (Original) The method of claim 24 further comprising adding a colored pigment to at least one of the first preform material and the second preform material.

28. (Original) The method of claim 24 further comprising:

(a) affixing a hub unit onto a proximal end of the peelable sheath;

(b) attaching a plurality of wing portions to opposing sides of the hub unit; and

(c) tipping the peelable sheath at a distal end thereof.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28 wherein tipping the peelable sheath comprises using a thermal process.

Claims 30-31 (Canceled)